



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Nick is a leading expert in environment, planning, ESG, climate change, sustainability, water, property, regulated industries and government law, with a focus on infrastructure, land development, and energy and resources. With more than 25 years' experience collaborating with Commonwealth, State and local government as well as major corporations in a diverse range of industries, he has advised key players in many of Australia's most significant projects, transactions and environmental disputes. One of Nick's strengths is guiding projects through their entire lifecycle, from conception to operation. He advises at executive, board, and ministerial levels, and is known for delivering pragmatic solutions.

Nick has also been appointed a Fellow of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand and was recently named Australia's best water lawyer by Best Lawyers (in association with the Australian Financial Review).

NICK THOMAS
Partner at Clayton UTZ



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

I am a highly motivated and ambitious strategic planner with knowledge in the field of international development, regional planning and application of nature-based solutions to achieve sustainable development. I hold an MSc with Distinction in Regional and Urban Planning from the London School of Economics and a First Class degree with distinction in Geography and Hispanic Studies from the University of Birmingham. Both have given me the aspiration to apply my knowledge to the integrated and multi-disciplinary world of planning and make a difference to our world.

I have strong personal values and a passion for supporting the environment, celebrating cultural diversity and embedding the concept of sustainability into everything I do. It is the exciting prospect of inspiring individuals, business and government to achieve a sustainable and resilient global society that drives my career in planning and development.

LIZ CRUMP

Principal Consultant,
Regional and Urban
Planning, Nature-based
Solutions at Arup Peru



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Harry is Landscape Architect from Arup, London. He is an environmentalist and birdwatcher who specialises in the design and delivery of nature-based solutions in urban and rural contexts. He is experienced in working across a range of scales and environments, from Central London to the rural Andes, with various levels of government and private sector interests.

Through his work, Harry seeks creative, site-specific solutions to global challenges. Trained in the fields of landscape architecture and geography, and with additional professional experience in ecology and conservation, he is able to bring an holistic mentality and respond to the myriad natural and societal systems in play.

HARRY LAVELLE
Natural Infrastructure
Specialist - Arup, Peru



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Award-winning Technical Program Manager with 10+ years of experience in privacy, security, incident response, AI-driven automation, and regulatory compliance. Skilled at leading high-stakes privacy and trust operations, managing cross-functional teams, and driving risk mitigation and regulatory alignment. Proven ability to develop scalable incident frameworks, optimize processes, and influence executive decision-making. Recognized for advancing AI and LLM solutions to enhance incident response and privacy automation. Background also includes Community & Trust & Safety Operations, focused on policy enforcement and community program development. Holds CIPT and CIPM certifications.

All the while demonstrating integrity, enthusiasm, attention to detail, and a growth mindset. Recognized for exceptional leadership, communication skills, and being a strong team player.

In my free time I founded the Biophilic Design Community, connecting professionals and enthusiasts passionate about integrating nature into urban spaces. With a degree in Environmental Design and Urban Planning, specialize in nature-inspired design strategies, green infrastructure, and community engagement to promote sustainability, resilience, and vibrant, healthy environments.

ALEXANDRA BOWEN
Founder and Consultant
at Biophilic Design



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Zoë is an urbanist, passionate about urban design, planning, and the environment. She is Director at The Urbanist and Associate Director of Design (Urban Planning), School of Architecture and Planning at the University of Auckland. For more than twenty years Zoë has been focusing on sustainability in policy and development from the small scale to large scale masterplanning projects.

Zoë is an authentic problem-solver who finds solutions that affect change from short term project work to long term strategy and policy. She believes that her role as an urban designer, planner and landscape architect is a commitment to serve the professions for the greater good. She is passionate about giving people the tools to create sustainable urban environments, while providing an alternative way to live as is needed to deal with the issues we face today, including climate change, good health and wellbeing, clean water, equality, zero hunger, and sustainable cities. Zoë's recent work includes New Zealand's first Living Roof Guide (Pukapuka tātaki ki te mataora tuanui) – winning the New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects Landscape Publication Award 2019.

Zoë believes in generosity of knowledge and is teaching studio to the Urban Planners and Designers at the University of Auckland. Her work includes changing the way urban planning is taught to ensure that the next generation of urban professionals are equipped to deal with the issues our cities are facing and inspire change. Zoë sees both these roles as offering the greatest opportunity to affect positive change, through teaching, and through creative work for the common good.

ZOË AVERY

Director at The
Urbanist Ltd | Associate
Director of Design
(Urban Planning) at the
University of Auckland,
Chair of Design
for Nature



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Jia Xin joined Henning Larsen in 2017 in Singapore, bringing onboard a diverse international architectural expertise on medium and large-scale buildings and masterplans.

Her prior work experience in Hong Kong, New York and Singapore has equipped her with a broad knowledge of the complexities entailed by mixed use developments, and the pressing needs for an architecture deeply rooted in the social, urban and natural ecosystems. Besides being the team leader and designer for the winning International Rail Corridor Competition Singapore, she has spearheaded multidisciplinary collaborations for Singapore's Bidadari Estate, Jurong Lake District, as well as innovative award-winning public housing designs.

With a keen interest in the social, natural and liveable dimensions of urban developments, as well as a strong presence in the Singapore design and culture scene, Jia Xin is actively involved in Design and Architecture curation and promotion, in collaboration with the Urban Redevelopment Authority, Design Singapore, and the Venice Biennale. Most recently she took on the role of Festival Coordinator for Archifest 2021, while also served as Curator for Environment and Sustainability.

Her professional and academic engagements have been a continued pursuit rooted in her Princeton graduate thesis titled 'Net Zero is not Good Enough: Adaptive Reuse and New Technologies'. She is a regular guest lecturer and external critic at the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) where she has previously taught in the Sustainable Design Studio.

JIA XIN CHUM
Studio Director
at Henning Larson



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

I'm a highly motivated and enthusiastic ecologist, with over 20 years' experience working in research, private consulting, and state government sectors, including a PhD in urban ecology and landscape ecology, and a post-doctorate in climate change ecology and urban ecology. A key focus in all works I undertake is bridging the gap between science and on-ground action, and achieving a better balance between human activities and environmental conservation.

I am keenly interested in urban ecology, green infrastructure, and biodiversity sensitive urban design, and have been working with local councils and developers around Australia to improve urban biodiversity, develop urban greening and cooling strategies, and engage with their community about the benefits of urban trees and urban wildlife.

I also have extensive practical field work experience, with particular strengths in designing, coordinating and conducting fauna surveys and site assessments in a range of terrestrial environments. These skills are complemented by highly developed report writing, data analysis, verbal communication, and project management skills, as well as additional experience using GIS and species distribution modelling programs.

DR JENNI GARDEN
Ecology and Sustainable
Cities Lead at Edge
Impact



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

I have built and led multiple conservation programs and coalitions over the past decade. This includes my role as co-founder and current co-chair of the Forest-Climate Working Group. In my leadership roles, I have been involved in every element of program design and implementation.

My accomplishments include authoring multiple pieces of federal legislation, design and implementation of strategies to advance Climate-Smart Cities through green infrastructure, and helping to conserve thousands of acres of forestland across the country.

JAD DALEY

President and CEO
of American Forests